

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/J:STAFF:BCL
APPROVED BY EA/J - ALAN D. ROMBERG
S/S:TMARTIN
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R 172359Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
INFO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
AMEMBASSY SUVA POUCH
XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 209836

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PGOV, EGEN, MARR, JA, US

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - JAPAN, AUGUST 17, 1978

TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/J - ALAN D. ROMBERG

1. MIDDLE EAST SUMMIT AND FUKUDA'S MIDDLE EAST TRIP. (CONF

AS YOU KNOW, THE CAMP DAVID SUMMIT WILL PROBABLY IMPACT
ADVERSELY ON PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA'S TRIP TO THE MIDDLE
EAST. FUKUDA IS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT SADAT IN
CAIRO ON SEPTEMBER 9. BECAUSE THE SUMMIT WILL NOT BEGIN
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UNTIL SEPTEMBER 6 AND WILL BE OPEN-ENDED, THERE IS THE
PROBABILITY THAT SADAT WILL NOT GET BACK TO CARIO IN TIME
FOR FUKUDA'S VISIT. THE JAPANESE EMBASSY HAS TRIED HARD
TO GET A FIX ON HOW LONG THE SUMMIT MIGHT LAST IN ORDER
TO PLAN FOR FUKUDA, BUT GIVEN THE NECESSITY OF KEEPING THE
SUMMIT OPEN-ENDED WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO HELP THEM VERY
MUCH. THE PRESIDENT DID SEND A LETTER TO FUKUDA ABOUT THE

PURPOSES OF THE SUMMIT, AND WE WERE ABLE TO ADD A PARAGRAPH EXPRESSING REGRET OVER ANY INCONVENIENCE THE SUMMIT MIGHT CAUSE FUKUDA. THE JAPANESE EMBASSY HAS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR AMBASSADOR MANSFIELD'S PERSONAL TOUCH IN DELIVERING PERSONALLY THIS LETTER TO FUKUDA. IT REMAINS PROBLEMATIC WHETHER FUKUDA CAN ALTER HIS SCHEDULE TO ALLOW FOR A LATE ARRIVAL BY SADAT BACK IN CAIRO.

2. ENERGY DEVELOPMENT: THE "FUKUDA INITIATIVE" AND TOKAI MURA (CONFIDENTIAL)

THE JAPANESE HAVE RAISED A NUMBER OF CONCERNS WITH OUR AUGUST 2 RESPONSE TO THE GOJ'S "NON-PAPER" ON THE FUKUDA S&T INITIATIVE. IN A LUNCHEON MEETING AUGUST 16 IN WHICH BEN HUBERMAN AND I WERE PRESENTED WITH THESE POINTS, BEN TRIED TO EXPLAIN WHY WE FELT THEIR INTENTIONS IN FACT WERE QUITE CONSISTENT WITH OURS. WE DO NOT YET KNOW HOW CONVINCED THEY WERE. WE HAVE AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT A HIGH-LEVEL US DELEGATION, SHOULD GO TO TOKYO FOR DISCUSSIONS SEPTEMBER 4-5 TO AGREE UPON TENTATIVE JOINT PROJECTS AS WELL AS THE INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK OF COOPERATION. THE U.S. SIDE WILL BE LEAD BY DOE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH DEUTCH.

IF THE JAPANESE STILL SEE SERIOUS PROBLEMS THEY MAY SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO WASHINGTON PRIOR TO THE SEPTEMBER
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MEETING TO ASSURE THAT EVENTS ARE ON THE "RIGHT TRACK " AND THAT THE TOKYO MEETING IS SUCCESSFUL.

TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS LOOKING TOWARD THE RENEGOTIATION OF THE TOKAI MURA REPROCESSING AGREEMENT -- WHICH EXPIRES NEXT SEPTEMBER -- WILL ALSO BE HELD IN TOKYO THE LATTER PART OF THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 4.

3. PREPAYMENT FOR URANIUM ENRICHMENT SERVICES; POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL PURCHASES (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

MEETINGS TO WRAP UP THE ISSUE OF JAPANESE UTILITY COMPANY PREPAYMENT FOR URANIUM ENRICHMENT SERVICES WILL BE HELD IN WASHINGTON BEGINNING AUGUST 21. MAJOR HURDLES, INCLUDING A POSITIVE DETERMINATION BY TREASURY THAT IT CAN HOLD ACCOUNTS IN THE UTILITY COMPANIES' NAMES AND THE AMOUNT OF INTEREST TO BE PAID, APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN OVERCOME, THOUGH THE EXACT AMOUNT OF PREPAYMENT (\$1 TO \$1.5 BILLION) IS STILL TO BE DETERMINED. FOLLOWING THE TREASURY SESSIONS, THE SCENE WILL SHIFT TO DOE WHERE THE SAME GOJ GROUP, PLUS SEVERAL UTILITY COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES, WILL DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF JAPAN'S PURCHASING

AN ADDITIONAL 6000 TONS OF ENRICHED URANIUM. THE GOJ
DELEGATION WILL INCLUDE OFFICIALS FROM MITI AND MOFA; ON

THE U.S. SIDE, REPRESENTATIVES FROM TREASURY, DOE, AND
STATE WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE 2-4 DAY SESSION.

4. CONSULTATION WITH SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE (UNCLASSIFIED)

I JOINED NICK PLATT, DICK RIVERS AND BILL BARREDA IN A
1 1/2 HOUR MEETING WITH STAFF MEMBERS OF THE SENATE
FINANCE COMMITTEE AUGUST 14. WE REVIEWED THE STATE OF PLAY
IN US-JAPAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS SINCE MAY, WHEN NICK AND
COMPANY LAST MET WITH THE STAFF. THE DISCUSSION WENT WELL,
BUT WITH SOME OF THE STAFF SOUNDING WARNING NOTES ABOUT
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INTEREST BY SENATOR RIBICOFF AND OTHERS IN TAKING ACTION
AGAINST JAPAN IF WE DON'T GET RESULTS SOON.

5. CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFER (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

WE HAVE ARRANGED FOR NUMATA OF THE JAPANESE EMBASSY TO BE
BRIEFED BY PM ON OUR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS ON
CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS AS PART OF A PROCESS OF IN-
FORMING ALL EA COUNTRIES ABOUT THOSE TALKS.

6. STEVEN REMPELL CASE (UNCLASSIFIED)

THE RECENT TRIAL IN TOKYO OF AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN STEVEN
REMPPELL (WHO WAS ARRESTED FOUR YEARS AGO ON CHARGES OF
CUSTOMS VIOLATIONS) RESULTED IN RATHER EXTENSIVE PRESS
COVERAGE IN THE US. THIS STIMULATED A LETTER TO SECRETARY
VANCE FROM REMPELL'S FATHER AND SIX CONGRESSIONAL IN-
QUIRIES TO DATE. WE ARE WORKING WITH SCS TO PREPARE
APPROPRIATE REPLIES TO THESE AS WELL AS POSSIBLE FUTURE
INQUIRIES.

7. VARIOUS CONGRESSIONAL ACTIONS (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

A. THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE HAS DELETED
ARTICLE 862 FROM THE DOD APPROPRIATIONS BILL, A PROVISION
WHICH WOULD PROHIBIT PAYMENT OF CERTAIN WAGES AND BENEFITS
TO DOD LOCAL NATIONAL EMPLOYEES ABROAD. SENATE ACTION IS
EXPECTED IN THE NEAR FUTURE. WE BELIEVE THE HOUSE CON-
FEREES WILL AGREE TO ITS DELETION IN CONFERENCE.

B. THE SFRC ON TUESDAY APPROVED S.J. RES. 111 TO ESTAB-
LISH PERIODIC PARLIAMENTARY EXCHANGES WITH JAPAN. AN

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ATTEMPT IS NOW BEING MADE TO SCHEDULE THE BILL FOR FULL SENATE CONSIDERATION. THE WOLFF SUBCOMMITTEE STAFF OPPOSES THE LEGISLATION AT THIS TIME, BUT SENATE STAFFERS MAY ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES ONCE IT PASSES THE SENATE.

C THE \$7.5 MILLION FOR UNU INCLUDE IN THE AID AUTHORIZATION BILL IS NOT IN THE APPROPRIATIONS BILL JUST PASSED BY THE HOUSE. THE APPROPRIATIONS BILL NOW GOES TO THE INOUE SUBCOMMITTEE WHERE WE BELIEVE THERE IS A FAIR CHANCE UNU FUNDS WILL BE REINTRODUCED. ITS FATE IN THE APPROPRIATIONS CONFERENCE IS UNCERTAIN, HOWEVER. VANCE

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED SUVA.

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